



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q58782

Hidetoshi KODAMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/544,543

Allowed: June 9, 2004

Confirmation No.: 7511

Group Art Unit: 2853

Filed: April 6, 2000

Examiner: Ly T. TRAN

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Appln. No.: 09/544,543

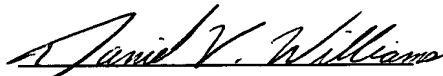
Attorney Docket No.: Q58782

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of Japanese Office Actions issued for counterparts of the present application, and an English-language translation (attached as Appendix) of pertinent portions thereof which cite the disclosed documents. English language Abstracts of the foreign documents are also included.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 9, 2004

APPENDIX

The cited references are as follows:

- D1: Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-321016A;
- D2: Japanese Patent Publication No. 7-9712A;
- D3: Japanese Patent Publication No. 8-169155A;
- D4: Japanese Patent Publication No. 9-71009A; and
- D5: Japanese Patent Publication No. 8-58119A

The Office Actions comment that:

D1 discloses a photograph data printing apparatus comprising: a connecting section to which a recording medium in which photograph data is recorded is connected; a display section for displaying an image recorded in the recording medium; a touch panel disposed on a surface of the display section and adapted to sense a position pressed by a user; means for holding a rolled sheet to be fed; sheet feeding means which is movable in a direction that the rolled sheet is fed; an ink jet head which is reciprocally movable in a widthwise direction of the rolled sheet, and operable to eject ink droplets in a range which is wider than the width of the rolled sheet; means for absorbing ink ejected to the outside of the rolled sheet at both ends of the movable range of the ink jet head; means for cutting the rolled sheet in the widthwise direction thereof; a printing section for printing the photograph data onto the rolled sheet; and a control section for controlling the printing section, the connecting section and the touch panel (cf., Column 3, Line 2 through Column 9, Line 4; Figs. 1 through 9);

D2 discloses an ink jet recording apparatus comprising a platen disposed so as to face a nozzle formation face of a recording head, wherein a face of the platen to which ink is landed is recessed or cut out, and an ink absorbing member is disposed within the recessed or cut-out portion (cf., Column 1, Lines 2 through 39; Column 7, Line 19 through Column 9, Line 2; Figs. 1 through 11);

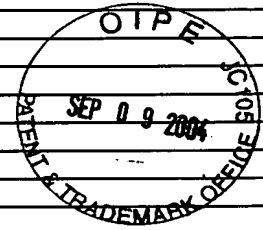
D3 discloses an ink jet printer comprising: a print head moved in a primary scanning direction; a guide member (platen) for defining a position of a recording medium opposed to the print head; rollers disposed at an upstream side and a downstream side of the print head. A part of the guide member facing the print head is formed with a hole. The guide member is configured such that ink ejected to the outside of the recording medium is led to the hole when the marginless printing is performed;

D4 discloses an interlace printing; and

D5 discloses a recording head in which a plurality of nozzle arrays are arranged in a secondary scanning direction. Each of the nozzle array is associated with one of different colors and includes nozzle orifices arrayed in the secondary direction.

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 09/544,543 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | 7511 |
| | | | | Filing Date | April 6, 2000 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Hidetoshi KODAMA |
| | | | | Art Unit | 2853 |
| Examiner Name | Ly T. TRAN | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q58782 | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 11-321016 | | 11/24/1999 | Seiko Epson Corporation | Yes |
| | | JP | 7-9712 | | 01/13/1995 | Canon Co., Ltd. | Yes |
| | | JP | 8-169155 | | 07/02/1996 | Seiko Epson Corporation | Yes |
| | | JP | 9-71009 | | 03/18/1997 | Seiko Epson Corporation | Yes |
| | | JP | 8-58119 | | 03/05/1996 | Canon Co., Ltd. | Yes |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Japanese Office Action for JP2000-103652 issued 05/13/2004 | |
| | | Japanese Office Action for JP2000-103689 issued 06/30/2004 | |
| | | Japanese Office Action for JP2004-072742 issued 06/30/2004 | |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.